

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- 1           1.       (Cancelled)
- 1           2.       (Previously Presented) An apparatus for use in a wellbore, comprising:  
2                    an element formed of a superplastic material to perform a predetermined  
3 downhole task; and  
4                    a component including a seal engageable with the element.
- 1           3.       (Previously Presented) An apparatus for use in a wellbore, comprising:  
2                    an element formed of a superplastic material to perform a predetermined  
3 downhole task; and  
4                    a component including an anchor actuatable by the element.
- 1           4.       (Cancelled)
- 1           5.       (Previously Presented) An apparatus for use in a wellbore, comprising:  
2                    an element formed of a superplastic material to perform a predetermined  
3 downhole task,  
4                    wherein the element includes a sand screen.
- 1           6.       (Previously Presented) An apparatus for use in a wellbore, comprising:  
2                    an element formed of a superplastic material to perform a predetermined  
3 downhole task; and  
4                    a shock absorber including the element.
- 1           7.       (Previously Presented) An apparatus for use in a wellbore, comprising:  
2                    an element formed of a superplastic material to perform a predetermined  
3 downhole task; and  
4                    a releasable connector mechanism including the element.

1           8.       (Previously Presented) An apparatus for use in a wellbore, comprising:  
2                    an element formed of a superplastic material to perform a predetermined  
3 downhole task; and  
4                    an explosive component including the element.

1           9.       (Original) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the explosive component includes a  
2 shaped charge.

1           10.      (Previously Presented) An apparatus for use in a wellbore, comprising:  
2                    an element formed of a superplastic material to perform a predetermined  
3 downhole task; and  
4                    a weak point connector including the element.

1           11.      (Currently Amended) An apparatus for use in a wellbore, comprising:  
2                    a carrier line; and  
3                    a tool carried by the carrier line for deployment into the wellbore, comprising:  
4                    an element formed of a superplastic material to perform a predetermined  
5 downhole task; and  
6                    a heating device to heat the element to a temperature sufficient to cause  
7 the element to exhibit superplastic behavior.

1           12. – 26. (Cancelled)

1           27.      (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the element is adapted  
2 to translate the seal into engagement with a downhole structure.

1           28.      (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 27, ~~comprising~~ wherein the  
2 apparatus comprises a packer.

1           29.     (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 27, ~~comprising~~ wherein the  
2 apparatus comprises a patch.

1           30.     (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 27, further comprising a carrier line  
2 and a tool carried by the carrier line for deployment into the well, wherein the tool comprises the  
3 element formed of the superplastic material and the component including the seal, the tool  
4 further comprising a heating device to heat the superplastic material to a temperature such that  
5 the element exhibits superplastic behavior.

1           31.     (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 30, further comprising a piston  
2 adapted to cause translation of the element.

1           32.     (Currently Amended) ~~The apparatus of claim 30,~~ An apparatus for use in a  
2 wellbore, comprising:  
3                   an element formed of a superplastic material to perform a predetermined  
4 downhole task;  
5                   a component including a seal engageable with the element, wherein the element is  
6 adapted to translate the seal into engagement with a downhole structure; and  
7                   a heating device to heat the superplastic material to a temperature such that the  
8 element exhibits superplastic behavior,  
9                   wherein the heating device comprises a propellant.

1           33.     (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 2, further comprising a conduit,  
2 wherein the element comprises a plug to block fluid flow in a bore of the conduit.

1           34.   (Previously Presented) An apparatus for use in a wellbore, comprising:  
2                   an element formed of a superplastic material to perform a predetermined  
3 downhole task;  
4                   a component including a seal engageable with the element;  
5                   a conduit, wherein the element comprises a plug to block fluid flow in a bore of  
6 the conduit; and  
7                   a port to communicate fluid pressure to deform the plug inwardly to enable  
8 movement of the plug.

1           35.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the component  
2 comprises a packer including the anchor.

1           36.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 35, wherein the packer further  
2 comprises a seal,  
3                   wherein the element comprises one or more sleeves attached to the anchor and the  
4 seal, the one or more sleeves adapted to translate the anchor and seal into engagement with a  
5 downhole structure.

1           37.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus for use in a wellbore, comprising:  
2                   a carrier line; and  
3                   a tool carried by the carrier line for deployment into the wellbore, comprising:  
4                   an element formed of a superplastic material to perform a predetermined  
5 downhole task,  
6                   wherein the element is selected from the group consisting of a casing, a  
7 liner, a tubing, and a pipe; and  
8                   a heating device to heat the element to a temperature such that the element  
9 exhibits superplastic behavior.

1           38.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 5, further comprising a heating  
2 device to heat the sand screen to a temperature such that the sand screen exhibits superplastic  
3 behavior.

1           39.   (Currently Amended) ~~The apparatus of claim 11,~~ An apparatus for use in a  
2 wellbore, comprising:  
3                 an element formed of a superplastic material to perform a predetermined  
4 downhole task; and  
5                 a heating device to heat the element to a temperature sufficient to cause the  
6 element to exhibit superplastic behavior,  
7                 wherein the heating device comprises a propellant.

1           40. – 41. (Cancelled)

1           42.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus for use in a wellbore, comprising:  
2                 an element formed of a superplastic material to perform a predetermined  
3 downhole task;  
4                 a junction seal assembly comprising the element; and  
5                 a heating device to heat the element to a temperature ~~such that the element~~  
6 ~~exhibits superplasticity~~ sufficient to cause the element to exhibit superplastic behavior,  
7                 wherein the heating device comprises a propellant.

1           43.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 42, wherein the element comprises  
2 one of a tubing and pipe to be inserted into a lateral wellbore.

1           44.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the superplastic  
2 material exhibits elongation to failure in excess of 200%.

1           45.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the superplastic  
2 material has a fine equi-axed grain structure that remains stable during deformation.

1           46.     (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 45, wherein a grain size of the fine  
2     equi-axed grain structure is in a range of 2 to 10 micrometers.

1           47.     (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the superplastic  
2     material exhibits elongation to failure in excess of 200%.

1           48.     (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the superplastic  
2     material has a fine equi-axed grain structure that remains stable during formation.

1           49.     (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 48, wherein a grain size of the fine  
2     equi-axed grain structure is in a range of 2 to 10 micrometers.